

## DNR FIELD STATIONS

Office hours may vary by location. Contact center for information on office hours.

### SOUTH CENTRAL REGION (Madison) .... 608/275-3266

Central Office Info Center ..... 608/266-2621  
Dodgeville..... 608/935-3368  
Horicon ..... 920/387-7860  
Janesville..... 608/743-4800  
Poynette..... 608/635-8110

### SOUTHEAST REGION (Milwaukee) ..... 414/263-8500

Plymouth..... 920/892-8756  
Sturtevant ..... 262/884-2300  
Waukesha ..... 262/574-2100

### NORTHEAST REGION (Green Bay)..... 920/492-5800

Oshkosh..... 920/424-3050  
Peshtigo..... 715/582-5000  
Sturgeon Bay Service Center ..... 920/746-2860  
Wautoma ..... 920/787-4686

### WEST CENTRAL REGION (Eau Claire) ..... 715/839-3700

Baldwin ..... 715/684-2914  
Black River Falls..... 715/284-1400  
La Crosse ..... 608/785-9000  
Wausau ..... 715/359-4522  
Wisconsin Rapids..... 715/421-7800

### NORTHERN REGION

Antigo..... 715/627-4317  
Ashland ..... 715/685-2900  
Cumberland..... 715/822-3590  
Park Falls..... 715/762-3204  
Hayward ..... 715/634-2688  
Ladysmith ..... 715/532-3911  
Rhineland ..... 715/365-8900  
Spooner ..... 715/635-2101  
Superior ..... 715/392-7988  
Woodruff ..... 715/356-5211

## ON-LINE CONVENIENCE!



❖ Apply for your bear permit on-line!

❖ Purchase your bear license on-line!

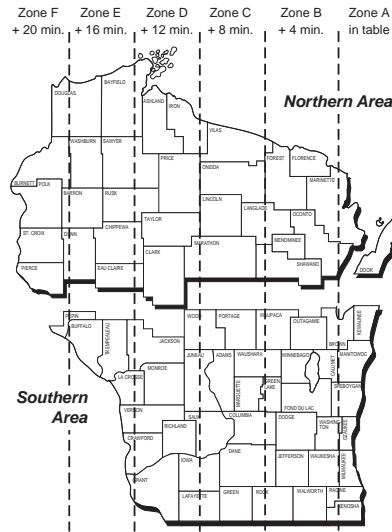
**CHECK OUT**

[www.dnr.state.wi.us](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us) FOR DETAILS.

## HUNTING HOURS

To determine the opening (A.M.) and closing (P.M.) times for all zones, add the minutes shown (see map) to the times listed in the table below.

### Hunting Hours Zones - Two Area system



## HUNTING HOURS

### Northern Area Hours

#### September

| Date | A.M. | P.M. |
|------|------|------|
| 3    | 5:43 | 7:45 |
| 4    | 5:45 | 7:43 |
| 5    | 5:46 | 7:41 |
| 6    | 5:47 | 7:39 |
| 7    | 5:48 | 7:37 |
| 8    | 5:49 | 7:35 |
| 9    | 5:51 | 7:33 |
| 10   | 5:52 | 7:32 |
| 11   | 5:53 | 7:30 |
| 12   | 5:54 | 7:28 |
| 13   | 5:56 | 7:26 |
| 14   | 5:57 | 7:24 |
| 15   | 5:58 | 7:22 |
| 16   | 5:59 | 7:20 |
| 17   | 6:00 | 7:18 |
| 18   | 6:02 | 7:16 |
| 19   | 6:03 | 7:14 |
| 20   | 6:04 | 7:12 |
| 21   | 6:05 | 7:10 |
| 22   | 6:07 | 7:08 |
| 23   | 6:08 | 7:06 |
| 24   | 6:09 | 7:04 |
| 25   | 6:10 | 7:02 |
| 26   | 6:12 | 7:01 |
| 27   | 6:13 | 6:59 |
| 28   | 6:14 | 6:57 |
| 29   | 6:15 | 6:55 |
| 30   | 6:17 | 6:53 |

#### October

| Date | A.M. | P.M. |
|------|------|------|
| 1    | 6:18 | 6:51 |
| 2    | 6:19 | 6:49 |
| 3    | 6:21 | 6:47 |
| 4    | 6:22 | 6:45 |
| 5    | 6:23 | 6:43 |
| 6    | 6:24 | 6:41 |
| 7    | 6:26 | 6:40 |

### Southern Area Hours

| Date | A.M. | P.M. |
|------|------|------|
| 3    | 5:46 | 7:43 |
| 4    | 5:47 | 7:42 |
| 5    | 5:49 | 7:40 |
| 6    | 5:50 | 7:38 |
| 7    | 5:51 | 7:36 |
| 8    | 5:52 | 7:35 |
| 9    | 5:53 | 7:33 |
| 10   | 5:54 | 7:31 |
| 11   | 5:55 | 7:29 |
| 12   | 5:56 | 7:27 |
| 13   | 5:58 | 7:25 |
| 14   | 5:59 | 7:24 |
| 15   | 6:00 | 7:22 |
| 16   | 6:01 | 7:20 |
| 17   | 6:02 | 7:18 |
| 18   | 6:03 | 7:16 |
| 19   | 6:04 | 7:14 |
| 20   | 6:05 | 7:13 |
| 21   | 6:07 | 7:11 |
| 22   | 6:08 | 7:09 |
| 23   | 6:09 | 7:07 |
| 24   | 6:10 | 7:05 |
| 25   | 6:11 | 7:03 |
| 26   | 6:12 | 7:02 |
| 27   | 6:13 | 7:00 |
| 28   | 6:15 | 6:58 |
| 29   | 6:16 | 6:56 |
| 30   | 6:17 | 6:54 |

| Date | A.M. | P.M. |
|------|------|------|
| 1    | 6:18 | 6:52 |
| 2    | 6:19 | 6:51 |
| 3    | 6:20 | 6:49 |
| 4    | 6:22 | 6:47 |
| 5    | 6:23 | 6:45 |
| 6    | 6:24 | 6:43 |
| 7    | 6:25 | 6:42 |

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# 2003 WISCONSIN BEAR HUNTING REGULATIONS



## — SEASON DATES —

❖ Zone C and portions of Zone A and B where dogs **are not** permitted:

**September 3–October 7**

❖ Subzone A1 and portions of Zone A and B where dogs **are** permitted:

**September 3–September 9**

➡ with aid of dogs only

**September 10–September 30**

➡ with aid of dogs  
➡ with aid of bait  
➡ with other methods

**October 1–October 7**

➡ with aid of bait  
➡ with other methods **not** utilizing dogs

**VISIT THE DNR WEBSITE AT  
WWW.DNR.STATE.WI.US**



Department of Natural Resources  
Box 7921  
Madison, Wisconsin 53707



### ***Dear Wisconsin Bear Hunter,***

*The history of the modern bear management is relatively short, dating back only to the closed season of 1985. During that time bear hunters, citizens who live in bear country, and the DNR have continued to work together to try to “get it right.”*

*In the late 1990’s bear numbers were a bit above goal in much of the state. The DNR, backed by major bear hunting associations including the Wisconsin Bear Hunters Association and the Bear Committee of the Conservation Congress made a conscious decision to get to goal, but to do it with a soft landing. Permit numbers were raised somewhat, but not all in one year. High permit levels have two consequences; you may not wait as long for a permit, but when you do get one you’ll find more competition out there.*

*In Zone C we’ve found more bears but also increased human tolerance for bears, so we’ve taken a different tact and raised the goal from 800 to 1,200 bears. Our work is paying off and we are close to having all units at goal.*

*As we increase our years of managed harvest we increase our knowledge base. There will always be some unknowns, but we are getting closer to a stage of fine tuning each year. Permit levels and the number of other hunters you bump into shouldn’t vary a lot over the next several years. As we always do, citizens and the DNR count on bear hunters to be the active arm of management. Thank you for the privilege of working with this premier game species in a great state. And thank you for all the passion and zeal you bring to your quest for knowledge and thrill of the hunt.*

*Sincerely,*

*Dave Evenson*

*Dave Evenson  
Acting Deer, Bear, & Elk  
Specialist*

## **NEW FOR 2003**

As a result of the discovery of Chronic Wasting Disease in Wisconsin’s deer herd, there have been a few changes to the baiting regulations for bear hunters. Please refer to the section on Baiting in this pamphlet to review these changes. **Also, please note that these baiting regulations are subject to change!** At the time that this pamphlet was printed, the baiting regulations were set by an emergency rule that has an expiration date, please be sure to check with your local DNR service center or the DNR website prior to placing or hunting over bait for bear hunting.

## **LICENSES AND PERMITS**

### **TO APPLY FOR A CLASS A BEAR LICENSE OR BEAR PREFERENCE POINT FOR THE 2004 SEASON**

- ❖ Applicants must pay a \$3.00 application fee, complete and submit the Class A Bear Hunting License/Preference Point Application by January 17, 2003.
- ❖ Applicants can apply for either a preference point (*Category 1- Class A License Refusal and Preference Acceptance*) or a license (*Category 2- Receive Class A License*). If you do not plan to purchase a license, do not choose Category 2— **if selected, you will lose your preference points even if you do not purchase your Class A License.**

### **CLASS B LICENSE**

**(RESIDENTS: \$8, NON-RESIDENTS: \$100)**

Formerly called a “bear pursuit” license, a Class B license is required to assist a Class A bear harvest license holder in hunting activities, including baiting and dog training. To assist with the bear hunt means helping a Class A license holder hunt bear by handling dogs, locating bear, or engaging in other bear hunting activities that enable the Class A licensee to locate bear. You do not need to be with a Class A license holder to place bait. A Class B license is required of all members of a dog training group (12 years and older) if they are handling dogs, locating bear, or assisting the dog owners in locating bear, monitoring radios, trailing, placing bait, or tracking. Persons under the age of 12 can engage in any of these activities without purchasing a license.

### **CLASS A LICENSE**

**(RESIDENTS: \$41, NON-RESIDENTS: \$201)**

Formerly called a “bear harvest permit,” a Class A bear license allows the holder to shoot and tag a bear. It also includes all the privileges of a Class B bear license.

### **BEAR HUNTING BACK TAG**

A bear hunting Back Tag is issued to all Class A and Class B bear licensees. Back tags must be worn while hunting bear, training dogs, or assisting the holder of a Class A bear license. The back tag must be attached to the center of a person’s coat, shirt, jacket or outermost garment where it can be clearly seen. Back tags do not have to be worn while baiting bears.

### **PERMIT ISSUANCE**

The number of bear permits available per management zone is based upon previous hunter success rates and current bear population estimates.

Hunters are selected using a cumulative preference system. Applicants receive a preference point every year they apply and are not drawn for a Class A permit. Applicants with the greatest number of preference points are chosen first to receive a class A permit. Hunters must apply at least every three years to retain their preference points.

## **FIREARM AND ARCHERY RESTRICTIONS**

### **IT IS ILLEGAL TO:**

- ❖ Hunt bear with a .22 or 5 mm rim-fire rifle, .17 caliber center-fire rifle, .410 shotgun, fully automatic firearm, or with ammunition loaded with full metal jacket, non-expanding type bullets.
- ❖ Use handguns, unless they are loaded with centerfire cartridges of .22 caliber or larger. These handguns must have a minimum barrel length of 5½ inches measured from the muzzle to the firing pin with the action closed.
- ❖ Use a muzzleloader, unless it is a smoothbore muzzleloading firearm of .45 caliber or larger, or a rifled muzzleloading firearm of .40 caliber or larger.
- ❖ Hunt bear with a bow having a pull of less than 30 pounds, or to use arrows which have metal broadhead blades less than seven-eighths of an inch wide.
- ❖ Possess while hunting, any crossbow (except disabled residents and nonresidents under DNR permit) or poisoned, drugged or explosive tipped arrow.
- ❖ Possess, place or transport, in or on any moving or stationary vehicle, any firearm, bow or crossbow, unless the firearm is unloaded and enclosed within a carrying case, and the bow or crossbow is unstrung or enclosed within a carrying case.

## **ROAD HUNTING**

### **IT IS ILLEGAL TO:**

- ❖ Hunt within 50 feet of the roadway’s center.
- ❖ Discharge a firearm, or shoot an arrow from a bow or a bolt from a crossbow from or across a highway or within 50 feet of the roadway’s center.

This prohibition applies to all public roads which are either paved or indicated on a current Department of Transportation county highway map. Unpaved fire lanes are exempt and shown as dotted lines on county maps.

*Note: Class A disabled permit holders are exempt from certain portions of this requirement when hunting from a stationary vehicle. Contact your local DNR office for more information.*

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services, and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

This publication is available in alternative format (large print, Braille, audio tape, etc) upon request. Please call 608-267-2452 for more information.

## OTHER RESTRICTIONS

### IT IS ILLEGAL TO:

- ❖ Shoot or molest any bear in a den, hunt bear in any dump or sanitary landfill, or kill a cub or any adult bear accompanied by a cub or cubs. (Research has provided us with a general guideline for distinguishing adult bears from cubs. **Note: State Administrative code has defined an adult bear as a bear exceeding 42 inches, as measured from the tip of the nose to the base of the tail.** Hunters concerned with distinguishing a cub from an adult bear should consider laying a 42 inch log next to their bait to assist in determining the size of a bear.) *If you're not sure, don't shoot!*
- ❖ Possess a bear carcass unless lawfully tagged.
- ❖ Sell, buy, trade or barter bear hides unless the claws, head and teeth are attached. Bear claws and teeth may not be sold, purchased, traded or bartered when separated from the hide. The sale of other bear parts is also prohibited.

## BAITING

## BEAR HUNTING MANAGEMENT ZONES

- ❖ **Hunters who apply for and receive a Class A bear license for subzone A1 may hunt only in subzone A1. Hunters who receive a Class A bear license to hunt in zone A may hunt in subzone A1 or any part of zone A.**

Zone A has been split in an effort to shift hunting pressure from the more heavily hunted portions of zone A to subzone A1, an area which has traditionally received less pressure and has had greater numbers of bear damage and nuisance complaints. Because A1 is a subzone and falls within zone A, the State Administrative Code requires that hunters with zone A licenses be allowed to also hunt in subzone A1.

### QUESTIONS?

For updated season & license information call the WI DNR Hunting License & Season Information Line.

**1-800-282-0367**

Bait may **only** be placed between April 15 and October 7, 2003, for hunting bear or training bear dogs during the open season's for these activities, provided when the bait is placed and when the bait site is checked or re-baited, that the bait is **totally enclosed in a hollow log a hole in the ground or stump which is capped with logs, rocks or other naturally occurring and unprocessed substances which prevents deer from accessing the material.**

### IN ADDITION, NO PERSON MAY:

- ❖ Place, use or hunt with the aid of bait material, in excess of 10 gallons for attracting wild animals or containing honey, bones, fish, meat, solid animal fat or parts of animal carcasses.
- ❖ Place, use or hunt with the aid of bait contained within or containing metal, paper, plastic, glass, wood or other similar processed materials.
- ❖ Place, use or hunt with the aid of bait material, within 50 yards of any trail, road or a campsite used by the public.
- ❖ Hunt with the aid of bait material, other than liquid scent, without possessing a valid, unused bear harvest permit.
- ❖ Hunt or pursue animals in an area baited in violation of this subsection or in violation of the feeding prohibitions of s. NR 19.60, unless the area is completely free of bait or feed material for at least 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, pursuing animals or dog training.

**Note:** Removal of unlawfully placed bait or other feeding material does not preclude the issuance of a citation for the original placement of the unlawful baiting or feeding material.

**Note:** You may hunt with the aid of material deposited by natural vegetation or material found solely as a result of normal agricultural or gardening practices.

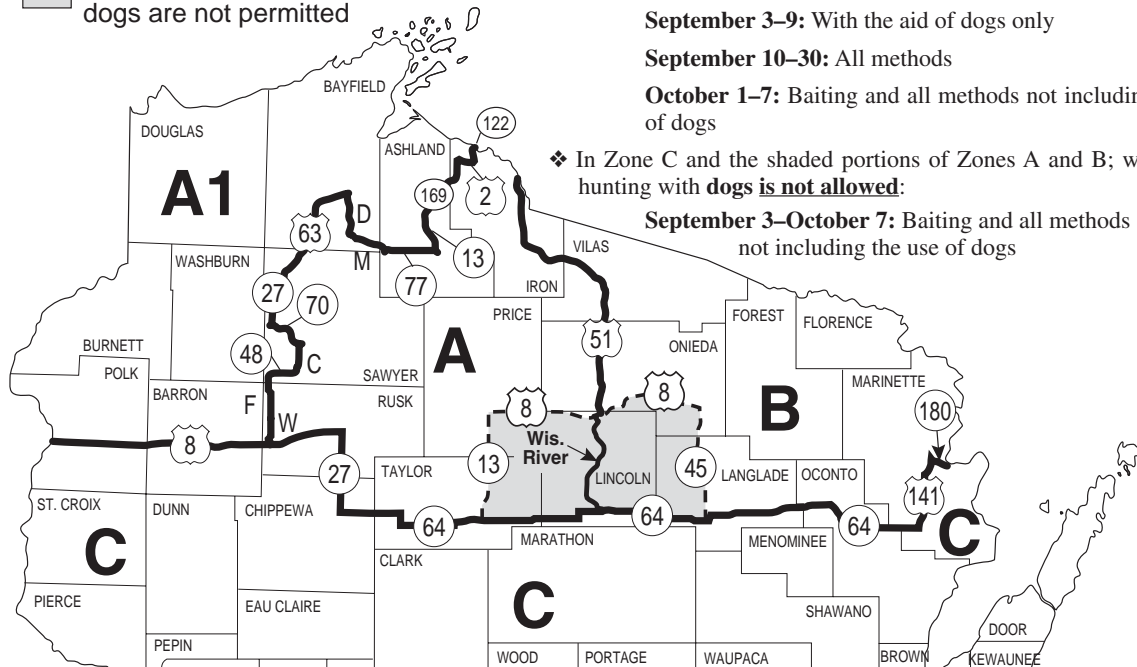
## TAGGING AND REGISTRATION

- ❖ Immediately upon killing, and before field dressing or moving the bear, you must validate the carcass tag by slitting the marks indicated on the tag. Immediately following validation, the carcass tag shall be attached to the bear at any location on the bear.
- ❖ If quartered, the carcass tag should be attached to the hide and both hide and carcass should be displayed at registration.
- ❖ Each bear must be registered within the county or adjoining county in which the bear was killed **and** within the black bear management zone or subzone in which it was killed no later than 5:00 P.M. on the day after the kill. See Internet for a list of registration stations: [www.dnr.state.wi.us](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us)
- ❖ The person who tags the bear must keep the carcass and registration tag with the butchered meat until it is consumed.

## BEAR HUNTING MANAGEMENT ZONES

— Black Bear management zone boundary

□ Portions of zones A and B where dogs are not permitted



(Zone C extends south to Wisconsin State Line)

### 2003 SEASON DATES

- ❖ In Zone A1 and the unshaded portions of Zones A and B, where bear hunting with **dogs is allowed:**

**September 3–9:** With the aid of dogs only

**September 10–30:** All methods

**October 1–7:** Baiting and all methods not including the use of dogs

- ❖ In Zone C and the shaded portions of Zones A and B; where bear hunting with **dogs is not allowed:**

**September 3–October 7:** Baiting and all methods not including the use of dogs

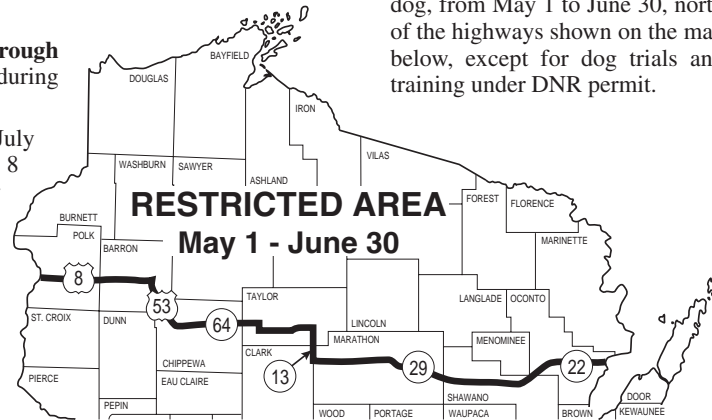


# DOG TRAINING AND USE

## IT IS ILLEGAL TO:

- ❖ Hunt bear with dogs, except in the non-shaded portions of zones A, A1, and B of the bear hunting management zones map during the season for dogs.
- ❖ Train dogs by pursuing bear **except** from **July 1 through August 31**. Bear dog training is not permitted during the bear hunting season.
- ❖ Train dogs on DNR lands, from April 15 through July 31, unless the dog is on a leash no longer than 8 feet, except on Class 1 field trial grounds or for bear dog training on DNR lands other than state parks after July 1.
- ❖ Hunt or train dogs unless one person in the group has on their person rabies tags or dog license tags for each dog.
- ❖ Hunt, train dogs, or pursue bear with a dog that is not tattooed, or that isn't wearing a collar with the owner's name and address attached.
- ❖ Allow the dogs to kill any wild animal.
- ❖ Hunt, train dogs, or pursue bear with more than 6 dogs in a single pack, regardless of the number of bear hunters or the dog's ownership.
- ❖ Dogs may be replaced that fall out of the chase, but no more than 6 dogs may be used to pursue bear regardless of the number of bear hunters and regardless of the dog ownership.

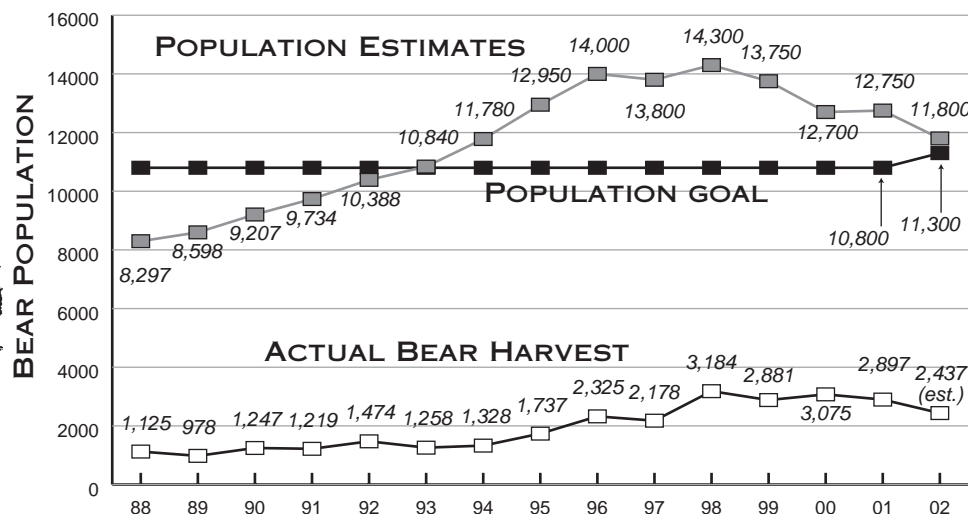
- ❖ Hunt or pursue any free-roaming wild animal with the aid of any dog, from May 1 to June 30, north of the highways shown on the map below, except for dog trials and training under DNR permit.



If not in possession of a Class A license, a Class B license is required of all members of a dog training group (12 years and older) if they are handling dogs, locating bear, or assisting the dog owners in locating a bear, monitoring radios, trailing, or tracking. Persons under the age of 12 can engage in any of these activities without purchasing a license.



## BEAR POPULATION AND HARVEST TRENDS: 1988-2002



## TRANSPORT

### IT IS ILLEGAL TO:

- ❖ Transport another person's unregistered bear unless accompanied by the person issued the carcass tag. Once registered, anyone may transport the animal.

*Note: Residents and nonresidents may transport legally possessed bear out of state.*

## TV SHOW FOR KIDS



*Into the Outdoors* is DNR's Emmy Award winning TV show for kids. The half-hour program is hosted by kids who use the Internet to find other kids their age doing outdoor activities and learning about the environment. The show is linked to *EEK!*, DNR's web site for kids, and airs on weekend mornings. See local TV listings for times and stations.

*The contents of this pamphlet were prepared by the Department of Natural Resources. A portion of the printing costs were paid for by the Wisconsin Bear Hunters' Association.*



Wisconsin Bear Hunters' Association  
6887 HWY E  
Abrams, WI 54101

## SUPPORT ETHICAL RESPONSIBLE HUNTING

REPORT VIOLATIONS  
CALL 1-800-847-9367  
1-800-TIP-WDNR

TOLL FREE • STATEWIDE • 24-HOUR •  
CONFIDENTIAL

(THIS IS NOT AN INFORMATION NUMBER.)

Conservation wardens may enter private lands while performing their duties.